period, the Government of India launched Save Grain Campaign in 1969-70. Training, demonstration and publicity in the field of scientific storage of foodgrains at the farm level, improvement of grain storage structures and other activities are carried out by the Save Grain Campaign for the benefit of farmers.

The National Horticulture Board (NHB), which is an autonomous body under the Ministry of Agriculture, is implementing the following schemes for strengthening the post-harvest management infrastructure and minimizing post-harvest losses:—

(i) Capital investment subsidy for construction/expansion/ modernisation of cold storages and storages for horticulture produce;

(ii) Development of commercial horticulture through production and post-harvest management of horticultural products.

Poultry industry in Andhra Pradesh

1366. DR. Y. LAKSHMI PRASAD: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has urged the Union Government to protect the poultry industry from disaster in that State;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the State Government has also requested the Union Government to impose anti-dumping duty on import of chicken and chicken meat products; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The major thrust of the Andhra Pradesh Government is to protect poultry industry by imposing anti-dumping duty of 150% on import of chicken and chicken meat products. The request of the State Government has been forwarded to the Directorate General of Anti-dumping under Ministry of Commerce, which is the designated

Ministry for this purpose. However, the Ministry of Commerce has informed that they have not received from the domestic industry fully documented petition requisite for the Designated Authority to initiate investigations to impose anti-dumping duty against import of chicken and such product into the country.

Drought in J and K

1367. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prevailing drought conditions have severely affected agriculture and horticulture throughout Jammu and Kashmir with the result that Rabi crop, especially wheat, fodder and vegetables have suffered heavy losses;

(b) whether the water resource have also dehydrated and the water level had gone down; and

(c) if so, the steps taken by Central Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) and (b) Government of Jammu & Kashmir has informed that crops like wheat, pulses, oilseeds, fodder, vegetables etc., during Rabi season 2000-2001 were severely affected by drought in several districts of the State. Availability of water for irrigation and drinking purposes also came under strain.

(c) The primary responsibility of dealing with natural calamities including drought rests with the State Governments. The main source of financing relief expenditure is the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) for which 75% share is contributed by the Central Government. For major calamities, where amount in the CRF do not suffice, assistance is admissible from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF). These arrangements are in accordance with the award of the Eleventh Finance Commission (EFC). Apart from releasing the first instalment of the Central share of CRF for 2001-2002 amounting to Rs. 13.74 crores, a special assistance of Rs. 23.20 crores has also been sanctioned from the NCCF.